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ALABAMA GIRLS' INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

BULLETIN

Historical Number

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MONTEVALLO, ALABAMA

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Montevallo

Edward Sherman Lyman.

(This article was written three years ago and is published on account of the School's interest in the history of Montevallo.)

Montevallo is very near the center of the State of Alabama, in Shelby County. Record evidence of its early history is entirely lacking, and facts handed down by its first citizens are meagre.

Among its first settlers were the Wilson family, from whom it was called "Wilson's Hill." Doubtless it had been a favorite locality with the aborigines, on account of its beautiful and abundant springs and its then nut-bearing forests, replete with game. Many arrow heads, and bits of pottery are yet to be found in the vicinity, and tradition tells of a famous play ground, which the Indians periodically visited, about three miles from the town, on what has been known as the Dison Place.

Congress, in the Act admitting the State of Alabama into the Union, in 1819, made a munificent grant of public lands (72 sections, 46,080 acres), to the State, in trust for a University to be established. All the public lands about Montevallo were selected under this grant; but it seems that at least Edmund King and Edmund Powell, two extensive early proprietors, anticipated the commissioners to the extent of selection of their homesteads, in 1821; probably two years before the University fixed upon its lands. The first President of the University of Alabama, Rev. Alva Woods, D. D., selected this place for the University, the particular site being the hill afterwards occupied by the residence of Burwell B. Lewis, later owned by Jno. D. McMath, and now attached to the property of the Alabama Girls' Industrial School. The town was laid off by the University authorities, which accounts for the streets running at right angles—an ususual thing for the oldest towns. The place was rechristened, Montevallo, by the President of the University. The suggestiveness and appropriateness of this Italian name is very readily appreciated, when we translate it: "On a mound, in a valley." Fortune has shown her fickleness many times to the little town, and began by moving the site of the University before the structural work was begun, to Tuscaloosa, where it remains. Lots in the town were sold by the University, as early as 1823, according to memoranda on the county roads.

In the course of its history, many notable men have been identified with Montevallo. In good citizenship, culture, refinement and the spirit of progressiveness, her people compare favorably with any other. In the lead of these stands the name of Edmund King, already spoken of as one of the first proprietors. We find evidences on every hand that he, at all times, stood for progressiveness, stability, generosity and good morals; materially, educationally and religiously, he initiated, or co-operated in, every forward movement. His "Mansion House" was the first brick structure erected in Shelby County. It is a two-story building, following the architecture of the time. The bricks were made on the bank of Shoal Creek, within the town limits, and its massive walls attest the good workmanship of the builders, although for long years the building was sadly neglected and abused. Col. King donated the land for the Baptist Church, for two school buildings, and for various highways, and took a prominent part in their building. He was looked upon as a safe and able adviser in County affairs, and in many of its enterprises acted as commissioner. In all the characteristics which seemed to have marked him as a public-spirited man, his antithesis existed in his neighbor, Edmund Powell. At one time it was proposed to continue Main Street to a section line, and thence along the section line northward, making the "Ashville Road". This was the line between the properties of King and Powell. Powell peremptorily refused to donate any portion of the land, and hence there was a divergence at the extremity of Main Street, so as to throw the road entirely upon the land of the generous King. The oft repetition of this and other incidents of like character, by the old slaves of Col. King, to demonstrate their superiority over the "Powell niggers," emphasized their vanity, and the feeling of feud that must have existed between these old families. King's "Mansion" was a refuge for young men, otherwise without home, and of whom he seems to have constituted himself gratuitous guardian, and all of whom, doubtless, in their turns are now dead. Among these were the trio of Lewises and French Nabors, who never tired of lauding the good qualities of their Foster-father. Two of Col. King's sons became lawyers and one a preacher. His daughter married Geo. D. Shortridge, who became a circuit Judge, and, as Know Nothing candidate for Governor, was defeated by John Anthony Winston. A grand-daughter, daughter of Judge Shortridge, married Chief Justice R. R. Gaines, of the Supreme Court of Texas, an Alabamian by birth, and another grand-daughter, Miss Grace King has gained distinction in New Orleans, as a writer, principally for magazines. Col. King

was a Baptist in faith. He died in 1863, and was buried near his "Mansion House," in his family burial ground.

Edmund Powell occupied a colonial, two-story house, on the site of the new Presbyterian Church, which was destroyed by the cyclone of 1874. He, likewise, was buried in his family graveyard, in the eastern portion of town.

Montevallo was first incorporated by the Legislature, in 1847, the form of government being very simple, with very limited powers. No records of the public administrations can now be found. This form of government continued up to about 1873, when the town calaboose was burned, cremating a prisoner, when it went into disuetude. There was no municipal organization again until January, 1901, a new charter having been granted by the Legislature, and since which time the "Town of Montevallo" has been governed by a Mayor and four Councilmen, elected by the qualified electors.*

In spite of an enlightened citizenship, for many years, saloons prevailed and thrived. Resulting casualties were frequent, and many violent deaths were recorded. Gambling and cock-fighting, for which "pits" were provided, were favorite amusements with the sports of the community who congregated here. After alternating between open saloons and prohibition, under local option laws ,the temperance sentiment finally became influential enough, in 1886, to secure the enactment of an absolute prohibition statute for the precinct. Later, in 1897, another more stringent law was enacted, prohibiting liquor traffic within ten miles of the Girls' Industrial School—excepting Calera—under the operation of which, it has become precarious for a "blind tiger," even, to do business; so that a drunken man is a very rare sight; a condition that contrasts delightfully with what formerly obtained. (In 1908 the prohibition law went into effect for the whole of Shelby County.)

In 1853, the Alabama & Tennessee Rivers Railroad, afterwards the Selma, Rome and Dalton, and East Tennessee, Virginia & Georgia, respectively, and now the Southern Railway, originally projected to run from Selma, on the Alabama, to Tuscumbia, on the Tennessee River, but which, during construction, veered to the eastward, was completed to Montevallo, which event was celebrated, in due form, by a great barbecue and accompanying oratory, and towards the accomplishment of which, Edmund King and his coterie of well-to-do Montevallo men, among whom were Daniel E. Watrous, Jno. S. Storrs, Geo. D. Shortridge, Wm. P. Browne, Alexander Nelson, and Daniel and Wm. L. Prentice, contributed. For several years Montevallo remained the northern terminus of the railroad, and, during this period, her commerce

flourished as at no other time. The products of Tuscaloosa, Jefferson, Blount, Walker, St. Clair, Talladega, and even Calhoun (then Benton) Counties, sought market or transportation here, and here was delivered exchange products for their people. Stage and Caravan lines ramified in all directions, and business was at its best. Besides the native merchants, Meroney of Tennessee, Storrs of Vermont, the Butlers, Rowley and Lyman of Connecticut, the McConaughys of Delaware, Steele from Lake Champlain region and his son-in-law and partner, Vandegrift, lately deceased, from St. Clair County, are still mentioned by the older farmers of all the region, as the merchants of Montevallo, with whom they liked to deal.

The extension of the railroad northward; the subsequent building of the South and North Alabama Railroad from Montgomery to Decatur, thus opening the way for the founding of Birmingham; the hardships of relentless war, marked the downfall of Montevallo's commercial glory, which steadily waned until the establishment of the Alabama Girls' Industrial School there, when it revived to some extent. Her merchants, including some young men, whose fathers were among the merchants of early times, have exceptional qualifications, and still succeed in drawing some trade from competitive points, and keep up the reputation the town has always held as a cotton market.

The environs of the town seem to be all that are desirable to make of it a manufacturing center. It is bordered by inexhaustable coal fields, iron ore and limestone deposits and cotton fields, and purest water, with ever undiminished flow, gushes from its very hills.

Owing, doubtless, to lack of capital, and the peculiar depressing conditions of the times, the few manufacturing enterprises projected by its citizens, being a foundry, a tannery, and a yarn mill, did not long flourish.

The South and North Alabama Railroad, now a part of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad system, was originally surveyed via Montevallo, and, doubtless, would have been located by this route, but for the arrest and prosecution of members of the surveying party for some minor violation of the laws, and their consequent prejudices, through which, they were led to leave the place some seven miles to the west of the line. This is accounted the second great lost opportunity of the place, through no fault of its own. Quite recently, through the lack of confidence, or, as it may have been looked upon, adventuresomeness on the part of its business men, a magnificent cotton mill was allowed to go to another community, with fewer natural advantages.

November 23, 1874, an unusually sultry day was the unheeded harbinger of a fearful cyclone, which, with great force swept up the channel of Shoal Creek, about midnight, demolishing everything in its path, with few exceptions, and, by a strange caprice, plucking the Methodist Church and an unfinished store building, from the very heart of the town. Only three people were killed: William Young, an aged man; his grand-daughter, Mamie Morrow, a beautiful girl of about fourteen years of age, who occupied a house with other members of the family, just in front of the Episcopal Church; and a negro man who lived on the east side of Main Street, near the present foot-bridge. Many miraculous escapes were recounted. So appalling did the disaster seem that a commission was sent East to solicit donations for the sufferers, who met everywhere with generous reception and contributions.

Prior to 1847, it is doubtful if there had been a school in the town proper. Children went to the country schools, some of which were most excellent. Particularly the ones at Salem, two and a half miles north of Montevallo, on the Elyton road, and which was attended by the Kings, Lewises and others who became prominent, and another at the cemetery, near Wilson's Branch, where, at one time, an eminently qualified professor named Lewis, taught, the details of whose history I have been unable to get. About the year 1846, H. R. Lyman, who came that year from Connecticut, taught school in the Cemetery school house, and afterwards, probably in 1847, continued teaching in the new Masonic building which was erected on the bluff at the foot of Main Street. In this building the several church organizations which had formerly worshipped at the cemetery building, held services, until otherwise provided with their church buildings. The Masonic building was destroyed in the cyclone of '74.

In 1851, The Montevallo Male Institute was incorporated, as a joint stock company, and erected what was then an imposing building on a lot donated by Edmund King, one of the stockholders and promoters. This building is now used as Chapel and class rooms by the Girls' Industrial School. Its architectural lines have been much changed, and not for the better appearance, perhaps, but necessarily ,on account of decayed superstructure. The masonry is of the very best quality, and the bricks were made within a hundred feet of the building. It was erected by a Mr. Shelley, whose son, Gen. Chas. M. Shelley, who afterwards represented the famous Fourth District in Congress, for several terms, assisted in laying the bricks.

Doubtless many of the stockholders defaulted in payment of stock, as the records show that the carpenters obtained judgments

against the corporation, and prosecuted them to sale under execution, at which a few of the leading stockholders purchased. These soon sold the property to three leading Cumberland Presbyterians: Edward M. Carleton, James D. Neeley and James McAmis, evidently acting as Trustees for the Synod of their church, which had in view the establishment of schools of learning here. This denomination built the first church in the town, in 1853, which building still stands, though dilapidated and unused. February 6, 1858, an act of the Legislature was approved, entitled:

" AN ACT

To incorporate the Montevallo Male and Female Collegiate Institutes of the Union Synod of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church of Alabama."

The preamble of which reads:

"Whereas, The Union Synod of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church of Alabama have resolved to establish a male and female institution of learning, of a high and general character, within the limits of said Synod, and have in fact located the same at the town of Montevallo, in the County or Shelby, to be known as the Montevallo Male and Female Collegiate Institutes of the Union Synod of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church; Now, in order to give full and legal effect thereto."

The building already alluded to being put to the use of female education, another was erected, in 1859, for the boys (being the building now occupied by E. S. Lyman as a residence); whether by the Cumberlands or not, it soon passed into their control and they conducted, with great success the dual institution, until interrupted by the war. (It is interesting and refreshing to note, by way of digression, that the Acts of Alabama, along about this period are beautifully strewn with creations of educational institutions, marking the period as a very high tide of interest in this great matter, throughout the State. The force of the blow it received by the shock of war can never be fully realized.) The lot for this second building, as already indicated, was carved from the estate of Edmund King. After the war, the Cumberlands were unable to carry on their great work. They turned over the Female College to one of their Ministers, Rev. W. H. Meredith, who, with members of his family, resided there and conducted a high grade school for two decades, during which it equipped many noble women for useful lives. The other building was alternately used for experimental schools for boys, and desecrated by their fusilades of stones until recently adapted for a dwelling. A long period of desolation prevailed at both institutions, prior to the crowning achievement of Montevallo in securing the location of

the Alabama Girls' Industrial School, over some thirteen competing cities and towns. As originally provided for, it did not seem to promise what is being realized and developed. The appropriation for the first year was $5,000.00, and for the next two, $10,000.00, each, for all purposes. Relying upon the examples of rapid growth and popularity with the people, of similar institutions in neighboring States, and spurred on by the realization of the decaying condition of the town, educationally and otherwise, the citizens united in the effort to secure the school, as they never had on any proposition, and they succeeded. The inducements being the central, healthy location, and the donation of a magnificent site, including the old Synodical School building, and $9,000.00 in cash. The Act creating the school was approved during the Session of 1892-3, by Governor, now United States Judge, Thomas G. Jones; having been introduced in the Senate, by Sol. D. Bloch, Senator from Wilcox County, who became one of the first, and still remains a Trustee. It took effect January 1st, 1895, soon after which Trustees were appointed by Governor Wm. C. Oates, himself being a member by the terms of the Act, and the President of the Board. The Trustees, first by committees, and then in a body, visited the different locations offered, finally settling upon Montevallo, during the summer; but with a condition, that certain real estate offered, and valued at $9,000.00, be withdrawn from the proposition, and its cash value in money substituted, by January 1st, 1896. Heroic were the measures employed to raise this amount of money, which, in addition to other sums required to obtain the site and building, and to pay the expenses of committees, was a tremendous task for the little town. At the suggestion of the late W. S. Cary, application was made to the Commissioners Court of Shelby County, backed by numerously signed petitions from the citizens and tax-payers of the County, and which met with no opposition, from any source, to donate $5,000.00 of the amount, and they readily responded. A committee of merchants was sent to near-by and distant cities—as far as Cincinnati—to solicit donations from those with whom they dealt, and which was successful beyond all expectations. On the first of January the Treasurer of the fund stood ready to deliver to the Treasurer of the Board of Trustees the full amount required, and all conveyances of title to the property donated, duly approved by the Attorney General of the State. Soon thereafter, the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees met here, and the transfer and delivery was made, and, for the first time during an eventful twelve months, crowded with efforts, doubts and dis-

appointments, the greatly exercised citizens breathed contentedly, and were completely happy.

The Act contemplated:

"The establishment and maintenance of a first class industrial school for the education of white girls in the State of Alabama in industrial and scientific branches, at which said girls may acquire a thorough normal school education, together with a knowledge of kindergarten instruction and music; also a knowledge of telegraphy, stenography, photography and phonography, typewriting, printing, book-keeping, indoor carpentry, electrical construction, clay modeling, architectural and mechanical drawing, sewing, dress-making, millinery, cooking, laundry, house, sign and fresco painting, home nursing, plumbing, and such other practical industries as, from time to time, to them (the Trustees) may be suggested by experience or tend to promote the general object of said Girls' Industril aSchool, to-wit: fitting and preparing such girls for the practical industries of the age."

Miss Julia S. Tutwiler, perhaps the foremost woman educator in the South, and of national reputation, had been unanimously elected President of the school, before the location; but the project seemed so dubious, considering the conditions, and limited provisions, that she and other educators realized, declined the proffered position. This presented a dilemma that looked like more adverse Fate, not only to the town; but to the State as well; but the man for the occasion was in our midst, and he met it with energy and business policies that successfully accomplished what the educators looked upon as improbable. Captain H. C. Reynolds had resided in Montevallo merchandising, most of the time, since the war. He had made a brilliant record as a scout under General Joseph Wheeler. He had taken a great interest, and the leading part in the location of the school; but no one had dreamed that he was the man destined to put it going.

Nevertheless, he was, upon the motion of Governor Oates, elected President and given almost plenary powers. With indefatigable energy and effort he prepared the old building, advertised the school, and opened at the appointed time, with something like 125 pupils from the different quarters of the State. An admirable faculty was secured. The institution at once found favor and became an assured success. Plans for a dormitory were selected, and during the following year the west wing of the building was erected, and accommodated about one hundred girls. Most of the homes in Montevallo had been opened to the girls, at nominal board, and the attendance steadily increased. During Captain

Reynolds' administration, and largely through his efforts, a grant of twenty-five thousand acres of public land in Alabama, mostly in the mineral region, was secured from the federal government, Booker T. Washington's school at Tuskegee, receiving a like grant. It has been concluded to hold the bulk of this land for future use or disposition, so that its benefits are not presently available. Some day it may prove to have been a rich endowment. At the end of the third year, the Trustees concluded to make a change in the Presidency, and the choice fell upon one of their members: Dr. Geo. B. Eager, an eminent Baptist pastor at Montgomery and a man of letters. After deliberation, he declined the honor, and, much to the regret of the Trustees and of the people at large, subsequently resigned his position as Trustee for the state-at-large, to accept a chair in the Theological Seminary at Louisville. The Presidency was then offered to Dr. John Massey of Tuskegee, a very successful educator of girls, and he, for some overpowering personal reasons declined. At his suggestion, the position was then offered to Prof. F. M. Peterson of the Southern University, at Greensboro, Ala., who, after careful investigation accepted. His administration has abundantly proven the wisdom, foresight and predictions of Dr. Massey, and the progress of the school has been steady. Much has been added to the building and plant; appropriations have increased; the attendance is all the accommodations will allow; the institution has taken the front rank in the educational system of Alabama, and its prospects are the brightest. The present enrollment exceeds four hundred. The annual appropriation is $25,000. Reference has already been made to the building of the first church, by the Cumberland Presbyterians, in 1853, while this denomination was in control of the schools of the town. After the war, this denomination, by removals and otherwise, steadily declined, until unable longer to keep up an organization permanently.

Other denominations continued to worship in the Masonic building until 1855, when the Methodists erected a church in the town proper, where the present church stands. This was destroyed by fire. The second one, built on the same spot, was utterly destroyed by the cyclone, and then the present building was immediately erected. Dr. Joshua West, a pioneer in Alabama Methodism, resided at Montevallo. He assisted in organizing here, in a house opposite the cemetery, on the Selma road, the first conference in this district, in 1823, and within a few hundred feet of this house he was buried. The inscription on his head-stone makes an interesting epitome of his record:

"DOCTOR JOSHUA WEST.
Was born in Rockingham Co., Va.
1771.
Was licensed a Methodist preacher
17th Oct. 1792.
Was ordained Deacon by Bishop Asberry
17th Oct. 1800.
Was licensed to practice Medicine
1812.
Was ordained Elder by Bishop Asberry
20th Oct. 1813.
He was a man of prayer and praise—
Having served his generation faithfully
as a preacher for nearly 68 years.
He died 8th January, 1860:
believing in every one of the doctrines
of the Methodist Church.
The graves of all His saints He blest,
and softened every bed;
Where shall the dying members rest,
But with their dying Head.
To him that overcometh will I give to Eat
of the tree of life that stands in the Midst
of the Paradise of God.
Aged 91 years."

Montevallo was made a "Station" by the Conference in 1855. At the same time a galaxy of young men destined to become great preachers were licensed; among them Rev. F. J. T. Brandon, who became the first pastor to Montevallo station, and Rev. R. S. Woodward, who was located here during the war, and afterwards joined the Mississippi Conference, in which he died, one of its foremost ministers. The Methodist denomination has always had a good membership here, and remains one of the strongest and most influential.

The first Baptist Church in the town proper, was organized in 1860, and was composed of seven members, to-wit: Edmund King, Noah Haggard, his sister, Mrs. Fancher; Mrs. Alamoth Woods; H. R. Lyman, and S. J. Perry.

Some, if not most of these withdrew from Shoal Creek Baptist Church, located near the ford on the Asheville road (the Perry Place.) The remaining members of that church removed their membership to Dogwood Grove, and Shoal Creek Church was no more. The Montevallo members—Edmund King donating the lot

—erected a handsome brick building where the west wing of the Girls' Industrial School now stands. During the perfect calm of a summer day, about 1877, this building utterly collapsed, some hidden defect in the timbers of the steeple, probably, causing it to give way and fall back upon the roof, crushing it in, and causing the walls to tumble outwards. The present frame building was then erected on Main Street. This denomination has had here, some of the ablest pastors in Alabama, and it has a large membership.

About 1870 the Episcopalians organized the few adherents of their faith, which organization they have since kept up, with few accessions. The cyclone carried away their first building before it had been completed; but they at once rebuilt.

In 1902 the Old School Presbyterians, who had formerly cooperated with the Cumberlands in their efforts to keep up an organization, took the remnant of that denomination under their wings and organized a new church, in which much interest is manifested, and have erected a very neat veneered brick edifice on the site of the old Powell residence.

The Catholics here are few in number and have never built a church. Occasionally they have a visitation from a priest and service at a private residence.

The negroes, until after the war, united with the white churches, the galleries being set apart for their accommodation. It was about 1875 when the A. M. E. Church was built in Montevallo, and the races parted company. Within the past few years Shiloh Baptist Church (colored) was established. One or other of these claim practically all the colored population.

(*My Lyman was unanimously nominated by a mass meeting of the citizens, in 1901, for Mayor of the City, and in subsequent elections received every vote cast for the office. The mass meeting was held in the Magnolia Hotel, which stands within a hundred feet of the site of the building in which he was born. With the exception of one term he has served continuously in this office, and is the present Mayor. He represented Shelby County in the Legislature 1903-1907, and was the author of the Bill increasing the appropriation of the school from $15,000.00 to $25,000.00. In May, 1907, he was elected Treasurer of the School.)

Industrial Education

Miss Elizabeth M. Haley, Montevallo, Ala.

(This article was read by Miss Haley before the Alabama Educational Convention at its annual meeting in 1905, and published in the proceedings of that meeting. By request of some who heard it on that occasion it is republished in the Bulletin.)

From the beginning, the development of the industrial education movement in the United States was one expression of the feeling of dissatisfaction with the older methods of education, and an effort to make public education more practical.

The same feeling of discontent, in its striving—sometimes only a blind groping—after better conditions, has manifested itself in various other ways—by reducing the amount of classical study required, by the introduction of elective courses, by the adoption of seminary method, and by the extension of the laboratory method in scientific study.

Industrial education began and has reached its highest development in schools of a scientific or technological character, and from these institutions it has extended through the agricultural colleges until it has reached and is now transforming the methods of instruction in the whole field of elementary and secondary education.

Technological education in the United States dates from the opening of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute at Troy, New York, in 1824. From its foundation this institute has been primarily a school of civil engineering in the widest extension of that term. Its training has given thorough equipment to many distinguished graduates, who, from Roebling, of Brooklyn Bridge fame, down, are the best exponents of the school.

The first really polytechnic institute in age as in standing is the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, chartered in 1861 and opened in 1865. In this most excellent institution, there are twelve regular four-year courses of study, each leading to the degree of Bachelor of Science. Applicants for admission must be seventeen years of age, and must pass a satisfactory examination in arithmetic, algebra, plane geometry, history, English language and literature, and in French or German. The studies are the same for all courses during the first year; after that, divergence begins, with specialization for professional work, though all regular

students receive systematic instruction in literature, history, political economy, and modern languages.

Harvard, with its Lawrence, and Yale, with its Sheffield Scientific School, Columbia, Michigan, Vanderbilt, Leland Stanford Junior, as befit great universities, offer facilities for the successful prosecution of special and professional studies in numerous courses of technology.

The pioneer of its class in the United States was the St. Louis Manual Training School, opened in September, 1880. Its distinguished director, Professor C. M. Woodward, was the author of the educational aphorism so popular for the past twenty years, "We send the whole boy to school." The catalog of this school says, and the record of its students seem to prove, that "The school has served to demonstrate the entire feasibility of incorporating the elements of intellectual and manual training in such a way that each is the gainer thereby." Its students acquire an educational appetite and find the way to gratify it, as shown by the large percentage who pursue the higher education—a convincing testimony as to the stimulating effect of the school. Dr. Woodward's own attitude is shown in his advice to students: "Get all the training and culture you can. I have known men to suffer from lack of education and training, never from their possession. No one has ever been injured by his ability to make a scale drawing, to construct a pattern, to temper a drill, to sharpen a chisel, or to match and glue two pieces of wood, any more than he has by the ability to spell correctly, to translate a page of Latin or French, or to explain a dynamo.

"When he can do both these and those he is sure to be in demand."

Quite different from manual training schools in aims and methods are trade and technical schools. In the former, manual training is welcomed just so far as it is an educational power, and no further; in the latter, the aim is such special development as will give mastery of some particular craft; in the former, the aim is subjective, the end is educational, the child is the important consideration, the center of interest; in the latter, the aim is objective, the end is the finished product, something of commercial value.

Among the most interesting trade and technical schools in our country art Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, Drexel in Phidalephia, Armour in Chicago, the Baron de Hirsch and Manhattan Trade Schools in New York, the Waltham Horological School at Waltham, Massachusetts, Cooper Union and the school of the great Hoe printing firm in New York, the Young Women's Christian

Association, institutional church, and settlement schools of the great cities.

Intermediate in grade between manual training schools and the technological institutes are the agricultural colleges found in almost every State and Territory of the Union. The Bussey Institution of Harvard at Jamaica Plain, Cornell, Tuskegee, Hampton, Tennessee, our own Auburn, with their laboratories and experimental stations, furnish practical work in observation and experimentation, in horticulture, floriculture, landscape gardening, the chemistry of soils, fertilizers, rotation of crops, road building, the economic importance of birds, insects, and weeds, the distinctive characteristics of the most approved breeds of cattle, horses, sheep and swine, dairying, veterinary science and allied subjects.

In 1881, he whom Alabama has long delighted to honor, our grand old man, Senator Morgan, introduced into the United States Senate a bill providing that all Agricultural and Mechanical Colleges receiving government aid should be required to annex departments in which various branches of skilled labor should be taught to women. The bill failed of passage, but it was a step forward, and in its introduction was seen the first sign of interest in a subject which has since become one of paramount importance.

At the second annual session of the Alabama Educational Association held in Birmingham in 1882, the first paper ever written by a woman by request for an educational meeting in Alabama was one on "The Technical Education of Women." This address prepared by the gifted, great-souled Miss Julia Tutwiler was well styled an epoch-making paper, for it was the first and one of the most important contributions ever made in this country urging industrial education for girls. Since then, Mississippi at Columbus, Georgia at Milledgeville, South Carolina at Rock Hill, North Carolina at Greensboro, Alabama at Montevallo, Texas at Denton, Louisiana at Ruston, have awakened to the fact that "the youth of the state" means girls as well as boys, and have started and equipped with more or less completeness growing institutions wherein their daughters may be instructed in the industrial and fine arts and in commercial and literary studies.

When Miss Tutwiler's notable address was made, she says, "There are practically but two vocations really open to women in the South, teaching and sewing; consequently both of these are miserably wretched and wretchedly paid." While we feel that "it is better further on," in that good time when there shall be neither bond nor free, neither male nor female, already the golden doorway of opportunity has opened far for the Southern women forced to become bread-winners and wage-earners. To the great

army of teachers and sewing-women has been added an even greater army of stenographers, telegraphers, bookkeepers, librarians, copy readers, clerks, purchasing agents, trained nurses, deaconesses, settlement workers, notaries public, photographers, florists, poultry fanciers, with an occasional lawyer, dentist, architect, Register in Chancery, steamboat captain and pilot, manager clearing house, member of the State Board of Education.

After this hurried and very desultory survey of the development of industrial education in the United States, we see that it has become an integral part of our educational system, and the question is not whether, but why, where and how we shall utilize this great agent in that education which is the preparation for complete living.

When the curse was pronounced upon our first parents, there was a blessing too, "In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread," and in the Fourth Commandment there is the injunction just as binding as that of a rest, "Six days shalt thou labor." By industrial education we may fulfill the commandment, and find the blessing where we had felt only the curse. Fettered by the traditions of our fathers nurtured in gentlemanly leisure, we of the South-imperial land-have been particularly prone to look down upon all forms of manual labor as degrading because belonging peculiarly to an inferior and servile race. We know now that "all true work is sacred:" let us feel and act accordingly. In our public schools where the children of rich and poor are taught together, let us give educational handwork an honorable place with the traditional subjects. True, the curriculum is crowded, but let us revise it with reference to the nature and needs of the child and the demands of society. Arranging our courses of study with these controlling ideas, we may omit much that is obselete and retained only because of our pedagogical (?), superstitious reverence for the hoary past and our stupid conservatism that would far rather be foolish than seem inconsistent.

Let us teach nothing simply for mental drill: let us correlate, certainly, but let the correlation be natural, not forced, remembering the happy statement that "the best correlation is often tandem."

Require purposeful effort, by all means, but lay fast hold upon the doctrine of interest, and rejoice when the child's interests are many-sided. The mind is reached only through the senses and manual training furnishes more avenues of approach than mere book work. The child loves to do things and "Satan finds some mischief still for idle hands to do:" manual training busies the hands, subjects them to the mind, and develops self-control,

that crown in Athena's triple gift "leading life to sovereign power."

The object of the public schools is to give a general education, to make men and women fitted to take their places as useful members of society, not to give technical instruction, hence the educational, not the commercial, value of industrial training should be emphasized throughout the course. The aim should be to furnish instruction and practice to render the student quick, observant and accurate with the eye, ready, skillful, and exact with the hand, and able to think in things as well as about them, to execute as well as to describe.

The pupil must be given opportunities for determining ends and working out means, or we cannot hope through manual expression to develop real independence of thought and power of initiative.

The handwork of the public school should be vitally connected at every stage with the life and healthy interests of the child, should enlarge the outlook upon the life of today and of the past and should serve to quicken sympathy in the aims and ideals of those whose lives are spent in such work. Domestic Science in the school should result in better food and more hygienic living in the home; sewing at school should bear fruit in neatness and good taste in dress, even in the "patch of premeditated poverty."

Nature Study should introduce to garden and farm life and cultivate an intelligent love of nature; the making of a basket or box should lead to some knowledge of the great box and basket industries; excursions should be made to the industrial plants of the community and the different classes of society would thus be brought together in a sympathetic interest that would undoubtedly tend to a better mutual understanding.

After working several hours in making a basket that only the most indulgent of friends would buy for ten cents, the child's respect must be aroused for the untutored savage whose baskets are so beautiful in form, color and technique. He sees as no mere words could make him do that he is not in all particulars the superior of those whom he has despised or ignored because of their lack of wealth or culture.

Handwork is properly educative only when theory and practice are balanced. Theory should be abundant, but it is applied theory that counts. Insist that the child talk of difficulties as they come up. If necessary, give the whole recitation to the thought side of the problem. Don't be in too great a hurry to pass over from head work to hand work, for automatic, mechanical work is not educative.

Manual training may prove a most valuable ally in English,

for it affords opportunity for the child to "think standing on his feet before folks:" it furnishes a motive for expression. In manual training, as in literary studies, there should be reviews, summaries, the passing of judgement by pupils as well as teachers on the work done, a statement of the difficulties and how they were overcome, the characteristics of good workmanship and how they may be obtained.

Efficiency is more important than mere knoyledge, and spirit is worth more than information; we should therefore, avoid that instruction which ends in a bare field or a blind alley,—which leads nowhere.

Handwork may have tremendous value as a training in honesty and the teacher's responsibilty here is very great. If the child's work is exhibited as his own, let it be so indeed, without any touching up on the part of the teacher or more skillful pupils. On the contrary, there are many advantages in having co-operative work, exercises of this kind having great value in training for leadership, consideration for others, and a love for social service.

Outside of the public schools of Alabama there is needed industrial education which we can supply to the hungering, inefficient discontents and ne'er-do-wells of town and village and countryside. Why not emulate our neighbor town of Columbus, Georgia, which has done so much for the dinner-pail brigade of the factory people's children? Miss Tutwiler started in Livingston a good work which might well be copied elsewhere when she employed a skilled shoemaker to teach negro street boys to patch and mend shoes. How many carloads of material for such work might be secured in Alabama for the mere asking! In the remote districts of our State there are many an old loom idle and disused and many an old woman soured with gossip whose fingers might be re-employed in useful, productive work weaving the beautiful old-fashioned fabrics so much sought after by artists and people of wealth and fashion in the large cities. The soft colors obtained from vegetable dyes and growing more beautiful with age offer another source of industry to those who would find healthful, remunerative employment in collecting and preparing them. Denmark, in its home industries, the Black Forest and South Austrian provinces in their cottage industries, Deerfield, Massachusetts, and brave little Miss Stoltzfus in the mountains of East Tennessee, with their village industries, are doing much for the commercial and spiritual uplift of their peasants and village folk; and cannot Alabama do as much to revive almost forgotten skill and to arouse latent talent in design and execution?

In Vienna, the Gewerbe-Museum has for its object the collect-

ing of examples of the best product in every trade and their exhibition for purposes of instruction. Would not such a collection in Alabama be wonderfully stimulative and suggestive? Why not make a beginning at our next State Fair?

Poor cooking is largely responsible for poor thinking and poor living; why not have better cooking, and how can we unless we are taught? Several European states are solving the problem by establishing traveling schools which teach the principles of scientific housekeeping, cooking, and farm work, and are giving great satisfaction. I quote from a recent report to our State Department:

"The teachers are all educated women, graduates of the best schools of housework, who must have passed government examinations. All expenses incident to conducting the schools are paid by the government, but these are comparatively light. An outfit for a school consists of a cooking stove, serving utensils, ironing boards, irons, tablecloths, towels and cooking utensils. Tables and chairs are borrowed in the various villages and the classes are held in the school houses. Only twenty girls are allowed in a class, a term lasts six weeks, and no pupils are admitted who are under sixteen years of age.

These are practical lessons in housekeeping, cooking and the selection of food; then lectures on the analysis of food, the scientific care of cattle and poultry, the cultivation of vegetables and the making of butter and cheese. It is proposed to enlarge the curriculum to include a minor course in nursing, cooking for the sick, sewing, mending, etc.

"The tuition will be so low as to practically exclude no one. The schools are specially intended to benefit remote farming communities not easily accessible to permanent schools of such nature."

Could this plan be somewhat modified in the field of industrial education, let me emphasize again the value of industrial training in bringing to blossom the glorious flower of our latterday civilization, the Christian ideal, the crown of life, social service.

From the kindergarden through the high school if we teach the dignity of labor and practice it in our everyday lives, are we not growing ever nearer to the Man of Galilee who came to be the servant of all? May we not then reverently pray with the now glorified Babcock:

"O Lord, I pray
That for this day
I may not swerve
By foot or hand

From thy command,
Not to be served, but to serve.
This too I pray,
That for this day
No love of ease
Nor pride prevent
My good intent
Not to be pleased, but to please.
And if I may,
I'd have this day
Strength from above
To set my heart
In heavenly art,
Not to be loved, but to love."

Dr. Francis Marion Peterson

As the final copy of this issue of the Bulletin was being prepared to be sent to the press the beloved former President of the Alabama Girl's Industrial School passed away. The following sketch of his life appeared in the Montgomery Daily Advertiser the morning after his death:

DR. PETERSON PASSES AWAY.

BELOVED ALABAMA EDUCATOR IS DEAD.

END COMES AT MONTEVALLO

MANY YEARS AT HEAD OF GIRLS' SCHOOL

Suffered from disease and forced to retire from work—Body shipped to Greensboro for interment.

Montevallo, March 3.—(Special.)—Dr. Francis M. Peterson, former President of the Alabama Girl's Industrial School, and one of the leading ministers and educators of Alabama, died at his residence here this morning at 6:30 o'clock. The end came after a long illness and much suffering.

In the summer of 1906 when Dr. Peterson was at his greatest usefulness, when the institution of which he was the head was at its highest point of success, he was suddenly stricken with illness. At that time, when his life work was reaching its greatest success, the stroke came and the physicians whom he consulted shook their heads. There was but a small chance of permanent recovery. He dropped the work which had become the devotion of his life; he laid aside the tasks in which he had wrapped himself and which he so loved. At an age at which he should have been at the height of his powers and when greater years should have stretched before him, he laid aside the duties to which he had consecrated himself and sought the small chance that was held out to him for recovery. He went West and spent several months in Colorado in an effort to recover his health.

HAD CARDIAC TROUBLE.

While there in this effort to restore himself to his future use-

fulness and efficiency he sustained an additional blow in the death of a beloved daughter. He discovered, however, that his illness was cardiac rather than tubercular, but it was none the less serious for that. He was never restored to health.

He came back to his family and loved ones in Alabama, continuing the struggle against disease. He bought a home in Montevallo, among the scenes he loved so well and there today the long and hopeless struggle was ended.

Dr. Peterson was the son of a famous West Alabama physician. Of the elder, the strong and gentle physician, it was said that he left the impress of his life and influence upon the town of Greensboro, as but few if any man has done. Dr. Peterson was born in Greensboro about fifty years ago. He was a strong and gentle youth whose early life was characterized by a deep piety. He was early destined for the ministry. Another brother, too entered the ministry. He is Rev. John A. Peterson, a leading member of the Alabama Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Presiding Elder of the Dothan District.

Francis M. Peterson attended the Southern University and in that institution he was distinguished alike for scholastic attainments, a deep piety and a nature that drew all men to him. He enjoyed the love and confidence of the students of the University to a rare degree and largely because of this he was, upon graduation, made a member of the faculty of the University.

This connection continued for a long term of years. It was broken only when at the behest of the Alabama Conference he served as pastor of the Methodist Church at Greensboro or as Presiding Elder of the Greensboro Circuit.

While a professor at Greensboro he was regarded as one of the most valuable assets of the institution. To a rare degree he enjoyed the frank love and esteem of the students.

The splendid work of Dr. Peterson at Greensboro was done quietly and unostentatiously. No man was more surprised than he was himself when, without any solicitation on his part, he was called to become the head of the Alabama Girl's Industrial School at Montevallo in 1899. He took up the burdens of the new office with the same cheerfulness and devotion to duty that characterized his life. There were some difficulties to be encountered at the beginning of his service at Montevallo, but these were surmounted and the trustees who had of their own accord called him from Greensboro, never failed to felicitate themselves on the wisdom they had shown in their choice.

WORK AT MONTEVALLO.

The Alabama Girl's Industrial School grew to be the most popular State institution in Alabama. Under the management of Dr. Peterson, the institution attracted so many students that it was impossible to find accomodations for them all. It was one of the regrets of Dr. Peterson's life that scores of Alabama girls had to be turned away from the school for lack of room.

He was held in a singular affection by the student body of the school. The students loved him as but few teachers are loved. The splendid moral tone of the school under his administration won the admiration of educational Alabama and the school enjoyed a popularity that perhaps no other institution has enjoyed.



EDITORIAL

This issue of the Bulletin has been considerably delayed on account of obstacles beyond our control. The next issue will contain the catalogue for the session 1907-'08. A permanent mailing list is being prepared. The name of any former student or other friend of the school will be placed on the list upon request.

COMMENCEMENT 1908.

The dates for the closing exercises are May 16 to 19 inclusive. The Alumnae Society will meet on Saturday, May 16. Much interest is being taken by the alumnae and a large attendance is expected this year.

The Commencement sermon will be delivered by Rev. Dr. W. J. E. Cox, Pastor of the St. Francis Street Baptist Church, Mobile, Alabama.. Dr. Cox is one of the leading pulpit orators in our State and no doubt his message to the pupils will be a most helpful and inspiring one.

The address to the graduating class on May 19 will be given by Professor Carlie Bartlett Gibson, Superintendent of the Columbus, Georgia Public Schools. Professor Gibson is a native of Alabama, and a distinguished graduate of our State University. He was formerly President of the Alabama State Normal College at Jacksonville, Alabama, and of the Alabama Central Female College, Tuscaloosa. For more than ten years he has been at the head of the Columbus Public Schools, a system of schools that rank among the best in the South. Professor Gibson takes a very deep interest in industrial education.

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE PROMOTION OF INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION.

This Society was organized about one year ago in the City of New York. While but few States were represented yet steps were taken to make the organization a truly national one. Prominent educators, manufacturers and others were requested to serve on State Committees and present the objects of the Association to the people of their respective States. The following were appointed for Alabama: Hon. Belton Gilreath, Birmingham; L. B. Musgrove, Jasper; J. Asa Rountree, Birmingham; C. W. Ashcraft, Florence;

H. C. Gunnels, Montgomery; Dr. C. C. Thach, Auburn; I. W. Hill, Opelika, and T. W. Palmer, Montevallo. This Committee met in Birmingham on January 12th, and elected Hon. Belton Gilreath, Chairman and J. Asa Rountree, Secretary. The great need of industrial education in Alabama was discussed at length and it was unanimously recommended that the governing board of the various High Schools, soon to be established, incorporate industrial studies in the curriculum for those Schools. Messrs. Gilreath, Ashcraft, Thach and Palmer were elected delegates to the first Annual Convention of the National Society at Chicago, January 23-25. This meeting was largely attended by representatives from forty States and Territories.